

University of Vermont
Burlington, Vt.

Department of
Commerce and Economics

Mar. 12, 1915.

President R. A. Falconer, D.D., LL.D.,

University of Toronto,

Toronto, Canada.

Dear Sir:-

As an alumnus of the University of Toronto, an honor graduate in the class of 1896 and a Master of Arts in 1900, may I venture to make a request, which must be preceded by a brief statement?

Before coming to the University of Vermont in 1901 to organize this (at that time) newly-endowed Department of Commerce and Economics, I had had more than a year of graduate study in the Wharton School of Finance and Economy, University of Pennsylvania; and since assuming the work here fourteen years ago I have had two years continuous leave of absence from my position in order to devote that time to resident graduate study in Harvard University. I have completed all the work at Harvard for the Ph.D. degree, except taking the final special oral examination. The latter is of such a nature that, were I to take it, I would have to spend a great amount of time on a lot of detailed minutiae which would never be of any value, for it would be forgotten as soon as the test were over; and I have too much regard for the use of time to employ it in this highly unsatisfactory way. Moreover, during

the past nine years I have been engaged upon a piece of research, much of the material of which has been obtained in the British archives. The quality of this work is such that it has been accepted by the authorities of Cambridge University, England, and its merit is attested by their publishing it under the imprint of that university. The work is now being put through their Press, with the title "Transportation in Modern England," and will appear in two volumes of about 450 pages each.

My humble request is, that in view of the character of my academic standing and work, and especially in view of this signal honor of having my work secure the high approval of Cambridge University, I may receive the recognition of my alma mater by your conferring on me the degree of Doctor of Science or Doctor of Letters, preferably the former. I may say that the editor of the "American Economic Review," Prof. Davis R. Dewey, Ph.D., LL.D., has, upon several occasions, acknowledged by letter the high character of my work. I am a member of the American Economic Association and of the American Academy of Political and Social Science; and I am a collaborator with other economists in the chief countries of the world for the publication, under the editorship of Prof. Bernard Harms, of Kiel, Germany, of the "Weltwirtschaftliches Archiv," devoted to world-wide economics.

I trust that you will give this request your judicial and favorable consideration, and that I may hear from you in due time in regard to your decision.

Very sincerely yours,

W. D. Jackman.

March 15th, 1915

M. T. Jackson, Esq.,
University of Vermont,
Burlington, Vt.

Dear Mr. Jackson:

The only two honorary degrees that are given in the University are Doctor of Science and Doctor of Laws. The degree of Doctor of Science has been recently instituted and so far has been conferred on an engineer of distinction and some scientists of high attainment. I think that the committee would not entertain the idea of giving the degree on the basis which would be almost that of post-graduate work. The degree of Doctor of Laws is as elsewhere confined for recognition of eminence in various branches. I judge from your letter that what you have in mind is that the work you have done should be recognized in a certain sense as postgraduate work, and in that case I would advise you to apply to Dr. A. B. Macallum who is Chairman of the Board of Postgraduate Studies, he would then be able to tell you the conditions on which the Ph.D. might be awarded.

Yours sincerely,

President.